

Truman Foresees Democratic World

By Phil Casey
Staff Reporter

Former President Harry S. Truman predicted yesterday the eventual forging of an effective "world organization" that will operate as democratically as the United States.

Jovial and informal at a Shriners' Sphinx Club lunch at Almas Temple, 1315 K st. nw., Mr. Truman told an audience of more than 200 that the students he has been lecturing "ask far more intelligent questions than the reporters do at a press conference."

The 74-year-old former President said jokingly that he had figured on running for President again when he is 90, "but some darn fool figured out that was an off year and I couldn't even run then."

Just before lunch, the former President reminisced briefly over his upset victory in the 1948 election.

"Everybody figured I was dead," he said. "So did I, but I wasn't going to show it."

Earlier, when he took his usual morning walk, Mr. Truman was in a benign mood, praising Secretary of State Christian Herter for a "good job" in Paris. He said Herter "apparently had a very successful meeting with other Western foreign ministers to prepare for the Geneva deliberations over Berlin."

He lauded President Eisenhower's promotions of C. Douglas Dillon as Herter's chief assistant and of Robert Murphy to Under Secretary of State. He had praise also for Allen Dulles, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, for "doing a fine job."

In the evening, Mr. Truman told a group of University of Missouri graduates, who made him an honorary alumnus while he was in the White House, that he was "just a country boy who was lucky."

Dubbing himself an "amateur educator," Mr. Truman, who never attended college, lectured them on the greatness of the Constitution, then said, "you oughtn't to have got me started. I'm a nut on the subject." This is the subject he'll devote the rest of his life to, Mr. Truman said, "and I hope to be 100."

The former President referred also to the House Un-American Activities Committee's invitation to testify on why he called it "the most un-American thing in America":

"I don't think they really want me because I might tell them what they ought to hear and they won't like it."